

## CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

25X1

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 1 SEP 49

SUBJECT 1. Zehdenick Forst Training Area, Mecklenburg  
2. Soviet OB Notes: Fürstenberg, Prenzlau,  
and Neustrelitz

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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\* See below.

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25X1 1. Zehdenick Forst Area (U701). 12-16 July 49

a. [redacted] reports that it is larger than first suspected. Actual boundaries appear to run roughly from Bannewalds (U61) north (passing Bredereiche on the west) to the Stolp See, northeast to slightly south of Lychen (U72), along the rail line to Templin (U61) through Hammelspring (U61), and back to Bannewalds.

b. Two forest workers said that a large tank park is located three kilometers east of Bredereiche (U61). Approximately 200 tanks, half of them JS types, are housed in temporary shelters north and south of the Bredereiche-Tangerndorf (U72) road. A forestry official confirmed this, adding that there were also many artillery weapons in the same sector.

c. The dismantled railroad line, Zehdenick-Templin, has been speedily rebuilt and was reopened on 15 July.

d. Lively vehicle traffic was noted in the Bredereiche and Hammelsdorf areas (U72), coming from Fürstenberg (U62) and leaving Bredereiche in the direction of Tangerndorf.

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e. All roads running west out of Hammelspring are blocked and patrolled. One Hammelspring farm is occupied by troops and a radio station, visited by many couriers from the camp area, is located in one farm yard. About 2 1/2 km southeast of the town, where the road crosses the rail line, several hundred laborers are laying a new stone road running northwest; it seems likely that this will be the main entry into the training grounds. New electric lines also are being put up, leading northwest. The first barracks have been erected 700 meters west of Hammelspring. Vehicles [redacted] entered the restricted area along with many German trucks hauling chalk, cement, glass, boards, barracks parts, electrical apparatus, etc.

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25X125X1 2. Prenzlau (U04). 12-16 July

a. Artillerie Kaserne - Housekeeping troops only. No vehicle traffic.

b. Local residents state: the town is held by armored troops who arrived

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY [REDACTED]

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during January 1949, departed during June, and are now said to be in the area west of Hammelspring and Vogelsang (U70); strength, about 2,000 men; equipment, 150 tanks of which half are JS types.

c. There are sixty officers' families in Prenzlau. There are no troops in the area Prenzlau-Tempelin-Joachimsthal.

b. Fürstenberg (U52), 15-16 July

a. During the night of 15-16 July, eighteen JS-3 tanks were unloaded at the Bahnhof and later took to the road leading towards Bredereiche.

b. The town proper is not heavily occupied. At the Ravensbrück concentration camp there are 800 recruits, who were seen training without weapons. Motorized rifle troops were seen in this area [REDACTED]

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a. Neustrelitz (U54), 17 July

Barracks within the town are lightly occupied. One in the southern part of Neustrelitz, however, contains 700-800 recruits, some of whom wear armored insignia. Barracks on the Neustrelitz-Penzlin road were reoccupied on the morning of 17 July by former tenants returning from training at a range west of the town. Accompanying them were twelve T-34's and trucks

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b. [REDACTED] Comment: Information in Paragraph 1 follows up [REDACTED] first report on this area. [REDACTED] As the boundaries are now given, this region includes both the Zehdenick Forst and Himmelpfort Forst, a considerable territory lying immediately north of the well known Schorfheide training grounds.

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SECRET [REDACTED]

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